

Message Text

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PAGE 01 COLOMB 01295 260113Z

65-44

ACTION OPR-02

INFO OCT-01 NEA-09 ISO-00 CU-04 AID-05 /021 W

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R 231145Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2622

UNCLAS COLOMBO 1295

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (PARA 3.)

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: ASCH, CE

SUBJ: OVERSEA CHILDREN'S SCHOOL

REF: STATE 86607

1. REGRET OVERSIGHT IN NOT REPORTING SELECTION
HEADMASTER. OVERSEA CHILDREN'S SCHOOL (OCS) BOARD HAS
CONTRACTED WITH MISS MARGARET WYE, UK, CURRENTLY HEADMISTRESS
OF BRITISH COUNCIL SCHOOL, ISLAMABAD, FOR TWO-
YEAR TENURE AS HEADMISTRESS TO COMMENCE IN AUGUST 1975.
BOARD PAID FOR WYE TRAVEL TO COLOMBO FOR INTERVIEW.

2. ANNUAL SALARY OF RS 78,000 (US \$12,000), PLUS
ALLOWANCES, TO BE PAID FROM OCS FEE REVENUES UNDER SPECIAL
ARRANGEMENTS WITH GSL FOR INCOME TAX EXEMPTION AND OTHER
PRIVILEGES.

3. EFFORT IS CONTINUING WITH GSL TO GAIN SIMILAR
PRIVILEGES FOR EXPATRIATE TEACHERS, WITH SOME HOPE OF
SUCCESS. \$10,000 GRANT (REFTEL, WILL BE OF CRITICAL
IMPORTANCE TO CONTINUE TWO AMERICAN-TRAINED TEACHERS
NOW ON OCS TEACHING STAFF (ONE DUE TO LEAVE IN SEPT
1975) SINCE LACK OF INCOME TAX EXEMPTION FOR EXPATRIATE
TEACHERS PRECLUDES PAAYMENT OF SALARIES FROM OCS FUNDSM FEES
HAVE ALREADY BEEN INCREASED TO RS 1,500 (US \$230) PER
TERM AND FURTHER INCREASES ARE PLANNED, PARTLY IN ANTICI-
PATION OF GAINING THESE PRIVILEGES. WHEN PRIVILEGES ARE
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GRANTED, SCHOOL INTENDS EXPAND ITS EXPATRIATE STAFF.

4. DEPTS HYST ASSISTANCE IN EDUCATIONAL SUPPLIES
HAS ALLOWED OCS TO IMPORT NEEDED CURRICULUM MATERIALS.
\$2,000 GRANT (REFTEL), WILL ENABLE US SUPPLEMENT SCHOOL
FUNDS, WHICH CAN NOW BE USED FOR IMPORTS AS RESULT GSL
AUTHORIZATION OF EXTERNAL CURRENCY ACCOUNT.

5. THANKS TO DEPTS SYMPATHETIC ASSISTANCE THROUGH-
OUT PAST THREE YEARS, OCS HAS MANAGED TO IMPROVE ITS
EDUCATIONAL CAPACITY AND SPEED UP MOVE TO SELF-SUFFICIENT
POSITION. REFTEL GRANT IS ESSENTIAL TO THIS EFFORT AND
IMMENSELY APPRECIATED.
BYRNE

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